

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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M/S 525

Donald W. Moos, Director
Washington State Department of Ecology
PV-11
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Mr. Moos:

The EPA initiated a National Dioxin Strategy in December 1984. At this time, I would like to give you a brief update on the status of Region 10 activities and enlist your cooperation with our efforts.

The national strategy is designed to:

- study the nature of dioxin contamination throughout the U.S. and the risks to people and the environment;
- cleanup dioxin-contaminated sites that threaten public health;
- find ways to prevent future contamination; and
- find ways to destroy or dispose of existing dioxin.

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The major focus of the strategy is on 2,3,7,8 tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin, or 2,3,7,8 TCDD.

To implement the strategy, EPA defined seven types of sites (or seven "tiers" as listed in Attachment A) which may be contaminated with dioxin. We have begun reviewing these sites, beginning with those with the most potential for 2,3,7,8 TCDD contamination. Work is underway for some of the tiers, and we are now beginning to work on Tier 2a sites.

There is one site in Washington that is part of our Tier 2a study. The site is the Pasco Landfill. Our initial work will be to screen this site for potential dioxin contamination. Our contractor, Ecology & Environment, is tasked to design a sampling plan for this site. We have asked E & E to contact state officials directly for information regarding this site; we want to be sure that this work does not duplicate any work that is already underway. In March-April 1985, a draft sampling plan will be completed; we will forward it to you for a two-week review.

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In January we plan to provide you with a more complete report on the status of our dioxin work.

The Superfund contact for this project is Lori Cohen (206) 442-2712. Please have someone on your staff call her to discuss this project. Anita Frankel (206) 442-1198, can provide information regarding the other tiers of the strategy

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Findley, Director
Hazardous Waste Division

Attachment

cc: Al Ewing

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